

VZCZCXRO3870
RR RUEHPA
DE RUEHOS #0062 0311630
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 311630Z JAN 07
FM AMCONSUL LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8430
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 8263
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ 0086
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 0093
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 0107

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 000062

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W
STATE FOR INR/AA
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH
SAO PAOLO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/31/2017

TAGS: PGOV PREL CASC KCRM NI

SUBJECT: SITREP #5: SSS INVOLVEMENT IN NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. LAGOS 57
1B. LAGOS 53
1C. LAGOS 47

Classified By: Consul General Brian L. Browne for reasons 1.4 (b and d)

11. (C) The Pivot-GIS Hostage Crisis Group met January 29. The Nigerian State Security Services (SSS) had been in contact with the kidnappers and reported that all three hostages were well. The Director of the SSS Alhaji Kola Adeshina, has been personally involved in the release negotiations and has provided medicine for one of the hostages, British hostage Neil Mirrlees, who suffers from diarrheal discomfort. The kidnappers claimed to be members of the Niger Delta Volunteer Force (NDVF). However, the absence of political issues in their list of demands has caused the SSS to believe the kidnappers are feigning the militant association. SSS believes this is a wholly criminal undertaking. The SSS did note the kidnappers' plan was mature and well executed. The SSS also is concerned whether the hostages were getting enough food and potable water. SSS has asked the company to obtain for additional comestibles, supplies and medication for passage to the kidnappers.

BROWNE